Help Make Science Open



| Project Title | Help Make Science Open |
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| | Help the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) communicate better with the public by putting your writing, editing, and/or Internet research skills to use! |
| Country | United States |

Project Description

The federal government and others are working to ensure that the public has access to science and research. We here at the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), the non-partisan research arm of the U.S. Department of Education, could use your help in this mission.

IES funds innovative research and development and wants to ensure that students, families, teachers, and policymakers can find and use the knowledge our grantees and contractors are producing. We need help in tracking down publicly available information, updating online abstracts, and identifying trends in the research that may be informative to the public. With your help, we can open up the scientific endeavor to those who need to know the results.

A primary goal is to help update and revise the information on our website through light editing, public database searches, and other web-based activities. You can help transform our content, improve communication between researchers and the public, and ensure that everyone can benefit from science. And you may even learn something that could benefit you as a student, parent/guardian, or community member!

In collaboration with an IES mentor, interns will work to update the information on the IES website. Of particular concern to IES are the project abstracts hosted online: https://ies.ed.gov/funding/grantsearch. Interns will help update the abstracts (e.g., revising them to past tense) and conduct web searches to identify publications or other products associated with IES grant numbers. IES also encourages interns to identify themes in the research or the findings that might be of interest to the general public and to help IES staff communicate these themes through social media (e.g., tweeting, blogging). The work will require access to basic word processing tools and the Internet.

Required Skills or Interests

| Skill(s) | |
|--------------------|--|
| Analytical writing | |

| Editing and proofreading |
|--------------------------------|
| Research |
| Social media management |
| Storytelling/blogging/vlogging |
| Writing |

Additional Information

Ideal candidates will have an interest in clear communication and a willingness to learn and adopt Plain Language Principles. They will have strong attention to detail and the ability to work independently. Interns do not need to have extensive experience with education research or theory or with scientific design, but potential interns with interest or experience in these areas are encouraged to apply. Those with technical writing, communications, library science, and related skills are also encouraged to apply.

As part of the internship, interns may need to work with Google Scholar (https://scholar.google.com/), ERIC (https://eric.ed.gov/), and the WWC Single Study Review engine (https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/reviewedstudies#/). Interns should be prepared to learn how to work with these and potentially similar online tools.

Language Requirements

None